

**TEACHER PEDAGOGICAL ASSESSMENT**

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

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**LONG TITLE****General Description:**

This bill enacts provisions related to a teacher pedagogical assessment.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms;
- requires the State Board of Education to:
  - establish a teacher pedagogical assessment to assess an individual's pedagogical knowledge and performance;
  - require an individual to pass a teacher pedagogical assessment to receive or retain a certain license to teach;
  - administer a pilot program to implement the use of a teacher pedagogical assessment; and
  - make rules related to a teacher pedagogical assessment; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:****AMENDS:**

**53A-6-103**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 144

**53A-6-104**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2003, Chapter 315

**ENACTS:**

**53A-6-117**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53A-6-103** is amended to read:

**53A-6-103. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

(1) "Accredited institution" means an institution meeting the requirements of Section 53A-6-107.

(2) (a) "Alternative preparation program" means preparation for licensure in accordance with applicable law and rule through other than an approved preparation program.

(b) "Alternative preparation program" includes the competency-based licensing program described in Section 53A-6-104.5.

(3) "Ancillary requirement" means a requirement established by law or rule in addition to completion of an approved preparation program or alternative education program or establishment of eligibility under the NASDTEC Interstate Contract, and may include any of the following:

(a) minimum grade point average;

(b) standardized testing or assessment;

(c) mentoring;

(d) recency of professional preparation or experience;

(e) graduation from an accredited institution; or

(f) evidence relating to moral, ethical, physical, or mental fitness.

(4) "Approved preparation program" means a program for preparation of educational personnel offered through an accredited institution in Utah or in a state ~~[which]~~ that is a party to a contract with Utah under the NASDTEC Interstate Contract and ~~[which]~~ that, at the time the program was completed by the applicant:

(a) was approved by the governmental agency responsible for licensure of educators in the state in which the program was provided;

(b) satisfied requirements for licensure in the state in which the program was provided;

(c) required completion of a baccalaureate; and

(d) included a supervised field experience.

(5) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

(6) "Certificate" means a license issued by a governmental jurisdiction outside the state.

(7) "Core academic subjects" means English, reading or language arts, mathematics,

science, foreign languages, civics and government, economics, arts, history, and geography.

(8) "Educator" means:

(a) ~~[a person]~~ an individual who holds a license;

(b) a teacher, counselor, administrator, librarian, or other ~~[person]~~ individual required, under rules of the board, to hold a license; or

(c) ~~[a person]~~ an individual who is the subject of an allegation ~~[which]~~ that has been received by the board or UPPAC and was, at the time noted in the allegation, a license holder or ~~[a person]~~ an individual employed in a position requiring licensure.

(9) (a) "Endorsement" means a stipulation appended to a license setting forth the areas of practice to which the license applies.

(b) An endorsement shall be issued upon completion of a competency-based teacher preparation program from a regionally accredited university that meets state content standards.

(10) "License" means an authorization issued by the board ~~[which]~~ that permits the holder to serve in a professional capacity in ~~[the public schools:]~~ a public school. The five levels of licensure are:

(a) "letter of authorization," which is:

(i) a temporary license issued to ~~[a person]~~ an individual who has not completed requirements for a competency-based, or level 1, 2, or 3 license, ~~[such as]~~ including:

(A) a student teacher; or

(B) ~~[a person]~~ an individual participating in an alternative preparation program; or

(ii) a license issued, pursuant to board rules, to ~~[a person]~~ an individual who has achieved eminence, or has outstanding qualifications, in a field taught in public schools;

(b) "competency-based license," which is issued to a teacher based on the teacher's demonstrated teaching skills and abilities;

(c) "level 1 license," which is a license issued upon completion of:

(i) (A) a competency-based teacher preparation program from a regionally accredited university; ~~[or (ii) an approved preparation program or an alternative preparation program, or pursuant to an agreement under the NASDTEC Interstate Contract, to candidates who have also met all ancillary requirements established by law or rule;]~~ and

(B) for an individual who applies for a level 1 license to teach on or after September 1, 2019, a pedagogical assessment described in Section 53A-6-117 with a passing score as

95 determined by the board;

96 (ii) (A) an approved preparation program;

97 (B) for an individual who applies for a level 1 license to teach on or after September 1,  
98 2019, a pedagogical assessment described in Section 53A-6-117 with a passing score as

99 determined by the board; and

100 (C) all applicable ancillary requirements;

101 (iii) (A) an alternative preparation program; and

102 (B) all applicable ancillary requirements; or

103 (iv) (A) requirements pursuant to an agreement under the NASDTEC Interstate  
104 Contract; and

105 (B) all applicable ancillary requirements;

106 (d) "level 2 license," which is a license issued after satisfaction of all requirements for  
107 a level 1 license as well as any additional requirements established by law or rule relating to  
108 professional preparation or experience; and

109 (e) "level 3 license," which is a license issued to an educator who holds a current Utah  
110 level 2 license and has also received, in the educator's field of practice, National Board  
111 certification or a doctorate from an accredited institution.

112 (11) "NASDTEC" means the National Association of State Directors of Teacher  
113 Education and Certification.

114 (12) "NASDTEC Interstate Contract" means the contract implementing Title 53A,  
115 Chapter 6, Part 2, Compact for Interstate Qualification of Educational Personnel, which is  
116 administered through NASDTEC.

117 (13) "National Board certification" means a current certificate issued by the National  
118 Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

119 (14) "Necessarily existent small school" means a school classified as a necessarily  
120 existent small school in accordance with Section 53A-17a-109.

121 (15) "Rule" means an administrative rule adopted by the board under Title 63G,  
122 Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

123 (16) "School" means a public or private entity ~~[which]~~ that provides educational  
124 services to a minor child.

125 (17) "Small school district" means a school district with an enrollment of less than

126 5,000 students.

127 (18) "UPPAC" means the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission.

128 Section 2. Section **53A-6-104** is amended to read:

129 **53A-6-104. Board licensure.**

130 (1) (a) The board may issue licenses for educators.

131 (b) [~~A person~~] An individual employed in a position that requires licensure by the  
132 board shall hold the appropriate license.

133 (2) (a) The board may by rule rank, endorse, or otherwise classify licenses and  
134 establish the criteria for obtaining and retaining licenses.

135 (b) (i) The board shall make rules requiring participation in professional development  
136 activities or compliance with a school district professional development plan as provided in  
137 Subsection (4) in order for educators to retain their licenses.

138 (ii) An educator who is enrolling in a course of study at an institution within the state  
139 system of higher education to satisfy the professional development requirements of Subsection  
140 (2)(b)(i) is exempt from tuition, except for a semester registration fee established by the State  
141 Board of Regents, if:

142 (A) the educator is enrolled on the basis of surplus space in the class after regularly  
143 enrolled students have been assigned and admitted to the class in accordance with regular  
144 procedures, normal teaching loads, and the institution's approved budget; and

145 (B) enrollments are determined by each institution under rules and guidelines  
146 established by the State Board of Regents in accordance with findings of fact that space is  
147 available for the educator's enrollment.

148 (3) Except as provided in Subsection (4), unless suspended or revoked by the board, or  
149 surrendered by the educator:

150 (a) a letter of authorization is valid for one year, or a shorter period as specified by the  
151 board, subject to renewal by the board in accordance with board rules;

152 (b) a competency-based license remains valid;

153 (c) except as provided in Section 53A-6-117, a level 1 license is valid for three years,  
154 subject to renewal by the board in accordance with board rules;

155 (d) a level 2 license is valid for five years, subject to renewal by the board in  
156 accordance with board rules; and

(e) a level 3 license is valid for seven years, subject to renewal by the board in accordance with board rules.

(4) ~~[Unless]~~ Except as provided in Section 53A-6-117, unless suspended or revoked by the board, or surrendered by the educator, a level 1, level 2, level 3, or competency-based license shall remain valid if:

(a) the license holder is employed by a school district that has a comprehensive program to maintain and improve educators' skills in which performance standards, educator evaluation, and professional development are integrated; and

(b) the license holder complies with school or school district professional development requirements.

Section 3. Section **53A-6-117** is enacted to read:

**53A-6-117. Teacher pedagogical assessment.**

(1) As used in this section, "pedagogical assessment" means the teacher pedagogical assessment described in Subsection (2).

(2) (a) On or before September 1, 2018, the board shall establish a teacher pedagogical assessment to assess an individual's pedagogical knowledge and performance.

(b) The board shall ensure that the pedagogical assessment described in Subsection (2)(a) evaluates competence in effective teaching standards as determined by the board.

(3) Beginning on September 1, 2019, except as provided in Subsection (4), the board shall require an individual to pass the pedagogical assessment:

(a) to receive a level 1 license to teach, if the individual prepares for teacher licensure through:

(i) a competency-based teacher preparation program from a regionally accredited university; or

(ii) an approved preparation program; or

(b) to retain, for a third year, a level 1 license to teach, if the individual:

(i) prepares for teacher licensure in a way other than through a program described in Subsection (3)(a); and

(ii) receives the license on or after September 1, 2018.

(4) In lieu of the pedagogical assessment required under Subsection (3), the board may accept an assessment completed in a state other than Utah that:

188           (a) an individual applying for a level 1 license to teach passes;  
189           (b) satisfies requirements for licensure in the state in which the assessment was  
190 provided; and  
191           (c) satisfies the requirements of the pedagogical assessment as determined by the  
192 board.  
193           (5) During the 2018-2019 school year, the board shall administer a pilot program that:  
194           (a) implements the use of the pedagogical assessment;  
195           (b) includes participation from:  
196           (i) individuals preparing for teacher licensure through a program described in  
197 Subsection (3)(a); and  
198           (ii) individuals preparing for teacher licensure in a way other than through a program  
199 described in Subsection (3)(a); and  
200           (c) does not require an individual to pass the pedagogical assessment to receive a  
201 license.  
202           (6) On or before September 1, 2018, the board shall make rules that:  
203           (a) establish the pedagogical assessment; and  
204           (b) establish minimum standards for an individual to pass the pedagogical assessment.